

EDITORIAL

Prominent international scholars within the field of ESP/EAP are increasingly considering (and choosing!) *ESP Today* as the outlet for their research work. I firmly believe that the six contributions in the first 2015 issue demonstrate the originality, quality and solidity of research *ESP Today* is trying to promote through its publication efforts. They broadly fall into two categories – those of theoretical and pedagogical nature, with each article reflecting a particular topic from diverse and fascinating ESP and EAP research fields.

First and foremost, we are truly honoured to have an opening contribution written by the esteemed Professor **Maurizio Gotti**, a renowned LSP expert, Head of the Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Communication, and Director of the Research Centre for LSP Research (CERLIS) at the University of Bergamo (Italy), and also editor of the prestigious *Linguistic Insights* series for Peter Lang. Being a distinguished scholar and a much-cited expert at, among other things, specialised discourses, Prof. Gotti offers to *ESP Today's* readership a thorough account of medical discourse, encompassing both diachronic and synchronic vantage points, thus assessing different overlapping influences on this specialised discourse and its rhetoric and confirming an indispensable role of language and linguistic studies in medicine. Besides lexical and grammatical analyses of medical texts, the first, diachronic strand, particularly targets textual research and a new textual genre – the experimental essay, as well as the formation of a new discourse community, the Royal Society and their distinctive use of the language in professional contexts. In the second, synchronic perspective of the paper, Prof. Gotti centres on the analyses of cross-linguistic, cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary contexts of usage in medical discourse, highlighting the findings of the research centre on specialised discourse at the University of Bergamo, and the dissemination of medical information in both written and oral doctor-patient communication. By integrating both diachronic and synchronic viewpoints, various methodologies and theoretical issues, Prof. Gotti convincingly shows how English for Medical Purposes has developed its specific traits. We sincerely thank Prof. Gotti for showing interest in publishing in *ESP Today*. We understand it as a sign of his support of the Journal and as an invitation to other ESP/EAP researchers to contribute in this way to the visibility, dissemination, eminence and citation frequency of *ESP Today*.

The next two papers, also written by renowned scholars in their research fields, address another, equally important and intriguing area of ESP and EAP research, that of Legal English, whose importance has been on the increase with

English becoming the *lingua franca* of international business and legal transactions. Thus, the eminent scholar from the University of Murcia (Spain) **María Ángeles Orts**, also very well-known, among other things, for her research into specialised discourses, particularly those of law and economy/economics, examines the impact of cultural and epistemological differences on both legal traditions and legal discourses reflected in characteristic traits of legal texts and the resultant translation techniques. In a meticulous way, the author traces the origins of the legal cultures in Spain and England, highlighting the most notable characteristics of Legal Spanish and Legal English and arguing that the analysis and interpretation of legal texts in the two respective languages should observe the distinctive cross-cultural differences despite the rising Anglo-internationalisation of law.

Ruth Breeze from the University of Navarra (Spain) is another esteemed scholar who has decided to share her research work with *ESP Today* readership. She has published widely with renowned publishers (Peter Lang, John Benjamins, Springer International Publishing, Cambridge University Press, Bloomsbury Academic, etc.), focusing recently on discourse analysis, language pedagogy, and professional communication. In her contribution to *ESP Today*, Ruth Breeze takes a corpus-based approach, exploring a vast area of vocabulary in legal documents. She utilises the information obtained by means of WordSmith for the design of language activities in the classroom. In addition to revealing some of the typical features of the given legal texts and how they function within different legal genres, the author's primary concern is to direct students' attention to corpus-generated, specialised words and expressions of Legal English and enable successful acquisition of such vocabulary by the data-informed activities.

The fourth paper, also belonging to the pedagogically-oriented category, is co-authored by **Ljiljana Knežević** and **Sabina Halupka-Rešetar**, both coming from the University of Novi Sad (Serbia), and both holding a PhD degree from its Faculty of Philosophy. Their paper deals with the topic that has long dominated the attention of ESP/EAP researchers – the learners' motivation and the related orientation towards language learning. The authors use the socio-educational model and the willingness-to-communicate model pertaining to reading to examine, on the one hand, willingness to read inside and outside the classroom in ESP students of different professional orientations, and on the other hand, the impact of the two affective variables, orientation and perceived language competence, on the students' willingness to read.

The aspect of the learners' motivation is tackled in another classroom-oriented paper contributed by **Michael Johnson**, an associate professor at the Muroran Institute of Technology (Japan), who observes the influence of different instructional materials, those of EFL and ESP nature respectively, on the Japanese engineering students' motivational engagement. Intertwining diverse characteristics of instructional materials, regarding activity type, content (EFL- or ESP-oriented) and characteristics (openness, difficulty, etc.) with individual and group classroom

factors, the author finds that the use of ESP instructional materials rather than EFL materials results in a higher motivation with such students, which calls for the corresponding curriculum changes.

Finally, a highly creative methodological solution in Business English classes is offered by the last research article in this issue of *ESP Today*. **Sanja Radmilo Derado** from the University of Split (Croatia) incorporates socio-constructivist approaches to literary short stories into Business English teaching and learning to reinforce the students' cross-cultural communicative competence. The author reports a number of valuable findings of such methodology, particularly regarding BE students' heightened interest in not only other cultures and their value systems but also in the effectiveness of literature as a pedagogical vehicle in Business English.

In addition to the above mentioned research articles, this issue of *ESP Today* also contains three reviews of the books highly relevant to ESP/EAP audience. The first review is written by *ESP Today*'s Associate Editor **Ana Bocanegra-Valle**, who offers a critical view of a new approach to needs analysis for workplace communication, developed in M. Huhta, K. Vogt, E. Johnson and H. Tulkki's book titled *Needs Analysis for Language Course Design. A Holistic Approach to ESP*, targeted to ESP teachers and course designers. The second review is by **Biljana Radić-Bojanić**, who offers an account of M. J. Curry and T. Lillis's book *A Scholar's Guide to Getting Published in English* which is highly recommended to authors seeking to get their work published in prestigious English-medium journals, as well as at manuscript reviewers or journal editors, who are also involved in the process of journal publishing. Finally, the third review is of the book *Figurative Language, Genre and Register* by A. Deignan, J. Littlemore and E. Semino, written by **Dušan Stamenković**. Although not directly ESP oriented, the book develops a solid new framework which will be useful to those ESP scholars who research the use of metaphor and metonymy in different discourse communities from a cognitive linguistic standpoint, including areas related to various scientific discourses as well as academic and research settings.

As always, my thanks go to the members of the Editorial Board and Advisory Board for their useful suggestions and ongoing support. This issue of *ESP Today*, however, would not be possible if it was not for the meticulous assessment, thorough evaluations and timely feedback on the submitted papers by our expert reviewers. Therefore, my most sincere thanks go to (in alphabetical order): Pilar Aguado-Jiménez (University of Murcia, Spain), Elisabet Arnó-Macià (Polytechnic University of Catalonia, Spain), Tomás Conde (University of The Basque Country, Spain), Alejandro Curado Fuentes (University of Extremadura, Cáceres, Spain), Nikola Dobrić (University of Klagenfurt, Austria), Jasmina Đorđević (University of Niš, Serbia), Piedad Fernández Toledo (University of Murcia, Spain), Kjersti Fløttum (University of Bergen, Norway), Jesus García Laborda (University of Alcalá, Spain), Diana Giner (University of Zaragoza, Spain), Christina Gkonou (University of Essex, United Kingdom), Nina Lazarević (University of Niš, Serbia), Špela Mežek

(University of Stockholm, Sweden), Bruce Morrison (Hong Kong Polytechnic University, China), Carmen Piqué-Noguera (University of València, Spain), Biljana Radić-Bojanić (University of Novi Sad, Serbia), Nguyen Thi Thuy Loan (Suranaree University of Technology, Thailand), María Vázquez Amador (University of Cádiz, Spain), Wenhsien Yang (National Kaohsiung University of Hospitality and Tourism, Taiwan).

The second 2015 issue of *ESP Today* will be published next December. We look forward to receiving contributions from our colleagues worldwide!

On behalf of the Editorial Board of *ESP Today*,

Nadežda Silaški
Faculty of Economics, University of Belgrade
Editor-in-Chief of *ESP Today*